



Tom Martin ★ Mayor

April 15, 2009

The Honorable Randy Neugebauer
United States House of Representatives
1424 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Neugebauer:

The City of Lubbock, Texas, supports Citibus' request for 2009 Surface Transportation Reauthorization funds for two capital projects: the renovation/expansion of their administrative/maintenance facility, and the purchase of thirty hybrid-electric buses.

The Citibus facility has not had a significant renovation since 1981 when it was renovated from a car dealership. Since that time Citibus' fleet and staff has experienced significant growth. The facility needs to be renovated and expanded to include updated security and technology. Updates will include green technology throughout the building. The facility would also serve as a regional maintenance facility.

Citibus' current fleet includes 1996 model buses that have exceeded their useful life of twelve years. The buses need to be replaced with low floor hybrid electric buses that will save approximately 30% to 40% in fuel costs and would reduce the dependence on foreign oil. This would also reduce Citibus' carbon footprint and help to provide environmentally friendly transportation for the citizens of Lubbock, Texas.

These projects were included in the public hearings for the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Improvement Plan. There were no comments at the public hearings regarding these projects.

The City of Lubbock/Citibus has received funding for six hybrid electric buses through a State Vehicle Capital Replacement Grant and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. In addition, Section 5307 funds will be used to purchase land for the renovation/expansion, and to hire an architect/engineering firm. Transportation Development Credits from the Texas Department of Transportation will be used as the local match for additional funds received for this project.

I appreciate your support of public transportation.

Sincerely,

Tom Martin, Mayor